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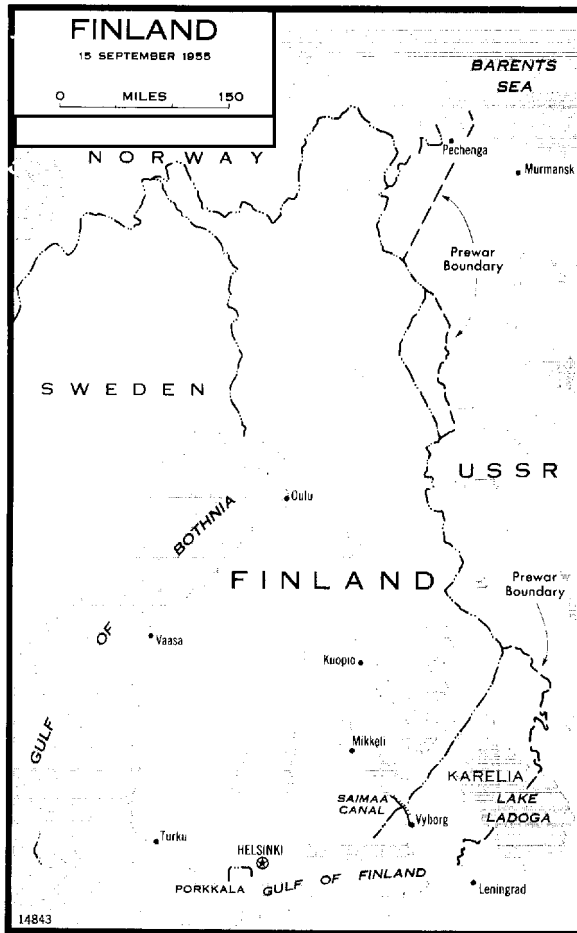
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1. USSR MAY PROPOSE BALTIC SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IN FINNISH TALKS

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During the current Soviet-Finnish talks, the USSR will make a proposal for "defense of the Baltic" together with some adjustment with regard to the Porkkala naval base or the Karelia area,

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The American ambassador in Helsinki believes President Paasikivi has reason to expect the USSR will make concessions during his Moscow visit that will be welcomed in Finland, and will not ask enough in exchange to provoke political division in Finland.

Comment The Baltic defense arrangement may refer to a reported Polish plan for a conference of Poland, East Germany, the USSR, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland to discuss among other things bans on the establishment of bases by non-Baltic powers and on atomic installations in the Baltic area.

Although major Soviet concessions to Finland are unlikely at this time, the USSR might grant Finland rights to use the Saimaa canal or make some concessions regarding the Porkkala base area.

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2. CONTINUATION OF MOROCCAN IMPASSE SEEN

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[REDACTED] A high French official in Rabat informed the American consulate general on 13 September that he did not expect any important action on governmental reforms "before 15 days." He added that the departure of Sultan Mohamed ben Arafa was still uncertain.

Some French settlers are urging unified armed action to prevent Ben Arafa's departure.

A Protectorates Ministry official stated on 13 August that the much-publicized letter from French president Coty inviting Ben Arafa to withdraw was ordered destroyed by Premier Faure under pressure from Foreign Minister Pinay and Defense Minister Koenig.

Comment Present indications are that if the indecision as to the removal of the sultan is prolonged, serious outbursts of violence may be expected.

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3. EGYPT TO ADOPT NEW POLICY TOWARD SUDAN

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Egyptian foreign minister Fawzi told Ambassador Byroade on 13 September that Egypt will take all possible steps to see that a "neutral atmosphere" is created in the Sudan in connection with Sudanese self-determination. Fawzi said his government will make it clear to the Sudanese that the decision Egypt wants is that which the Sudanese consider in their own best interests.

Comment

Indications of a new Egyptian policy, in which gestures of friendship are replacing earlier threats and attempts at subversion aimed at obtaining Egyptian-Sudanese union, have been noted since the resignation on 26 August of Major Salah Salim, the Egyptian minister for Sudan affairs. Cairo's new tactic has been reflected in the tone of its radio broadcasts on the Sudan, and the Sudanese in their broadcasts have in turn protested friendship for Egypt.

This new Egyptian tactic probably springs in part from a desire to influence the course of current Sudanese-Egyptian negotiations on the distribution of the Nile waters.

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